

Appl. No. 09/586,270
Atty. Docket No. 7533
Amdt. dated January 16, 2004
Reply to Office Action of January 7, 2004
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 26-45 without prejudice.

Listing of Claims:

1-11 (Canceled)

12. (Previously presented) A composition for softening a cellulosic structure, said composition comprising:

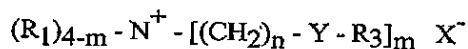
- (a) from at least about 25% to about 50% of a softening active ingredient;
- (b) a vehicle wherein said softening active ingredient is dispersed;
- (c) an electrolyte dissolved in said vehicle; and
- (d) a bilayer disrupter, wherein said electrolyte and said bilayer disrupter cooperate to cause the viscosity of said composition to be less than the viscosity of a bicomponent dispersion of said softening active ingredient in said vehicle.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 12 wherein said softening active ingredient comprises at least about 35% of said composition.

15. (Original) The composition of Claim 12 wherein said softening active ingredient comprises a quaternary ammonium compound.

16. (Original) The composition of Claim 15 wherein said quaternary ammonium compound has the formula:



wherein Y is -O-(O)C-, or -C(O)-O-, or -NH-C(O)-, or -C(O)-NH-;

m is 1 to 3;

n is 0 to 4;

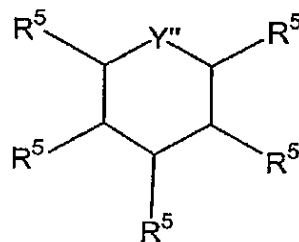
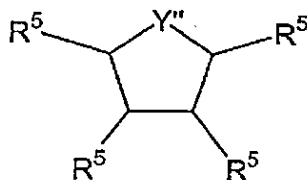
each R₁ is a C₁-C₆ alkyl or alkenyl group, hydroxyalkyl group, hydrocarbyl or substituted hydrocarbyl group, alkoxyated group, benzyl group, or mixtures thereof;

each R₃ is a C₁₃-C₂₁ alkyl or alkenyl group, hydroxyalkyl group, hydrocarbyl or substituted hydrocarbyl group, alkoxyated group, benzyl group, or mixtures thereof; and

X⁻ is any softener-compatible anion.

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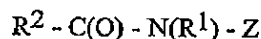
17. (Original) The composition of Claim 16 wherein m is 2, n is 2, R₁ is methyl, R₃ is C₁₅-C₁₇ alkyl or alkenyl, and Y is -O-(O)C-, or -C(O)-O-.
18. (Original) The composition of Claim 17 wherein X⁻ is chloride or methyl sulfate.
19. (Original) The composition of Claim 16 wherein said composition further comprises a plasticizer.
20. (Original) The composition of Claim 19 wherein said plasticizer is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol and mixtures thereof.
21. (Original) The composition of Claim 16 wherein said vehicle is water and said electrolyte is a salt selected from the group consisting of the chloride salts of sodium, calcium, and magnesium.
22. (Original) The composition of Claim 21 wherein said salt is present at a level between about 0.1% and about 20% by weight of said composition.
23. (Original) The composition of Claim 12 wherein said bilayer disrupter is used at a level of between about 2% and about 15% of the level of said softening active ingredient.
24. (Original) The composition of Claim 12 wherein said bilayer disrupter is selected from the group consisting of:
1. nonionic surfactants derived from saturated and/or unsaturated primary, secondary, and/or branched, amine, amide, amine-oxide fatty alcohol, fatty acid, alkyl phenol, and/or alkyl aryl carboxylic acid compounds having from about 6 to about 22 carbon atoms in a hydrophobic chain, wherein at least one active hydrogen of said compounds is ethoxylated with ≤ 50 ethylene oxide moieties to provide an HLB of from about 6 to about 20;
 2. nonionic surfactants with bulky head groups selected from:
 - a. surfactants having the formulas:



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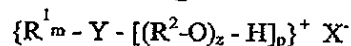
wherein Y" = N or O; and each R⁵ is selected independently from the following:
 -H, -OH, -(CH₂)_xCH₃, -O(OR²)_z-H, -OR¹, -OC(O)R¹, and -CH(CH₂-(OR²)_z-H)-
 CH₂-(OR²)_z-C(O)R¹, x and R¹ are as defined above and 5 ≤ z, z', and z'' ≤ 20;
 and

b. polyhydroxy fatty acid amide surfactants of the formula:



wherein: each R¹ is H, C₁-C₄ hydrocarbyl, C₁-C₄ alkoxyalkyl, or hydroxyalkyl;
 R² is a C₅-C₂₁ hydrocarbyl moiety; and each Z is a polyhydroxyhydrocarbyl
 moiety having a linear hydrocarbyl chain with at least 3 hydroxyls directly
 connected to the chain, or an ethoxylated derivative thereof; and

3. cationic surfactants having the formula:



wherein R¹ is selected from the group consisting of saturated or unsaturated,
 primary, secondary or branched chain alkyl or alkyl-aryl hydrocarbons; said
 hydrocarbon chain having from about 6 to about 22 carbon atoms; each R² is
 selected from the following groups or combinations of the following groups: -
 (CH₂)_n- and/or -[CH(CH₃)CH₂]-; Y is selected from the following groups: =N⁺-
 (A)_q; -(CH₂)_n-N⁺-(A)_q; -B-(CH₂)_n-N⁺-(A)₂; -(phenyl)-N⁺-(A)_q; -(B-phenyl)-N⁺-
 (A)_q; with n being from about 1 to about 4, wherein each A is independently
 selected from the following groups: H; C₁₋₅ alkyl; R¹; -(R²O)_z-H; -(CH₂)_xCH₃;
 phenyl, and substituted aryl; where 0 ≤ x ≤ about 3; and each B is selected from
 the following groups: -O-; -NA-; -NA₂; -C(O)O-; and -C(O)N(A)-; wherein R² is
 defined as hereinbefore; q = 1 or 2; total z per molecule is from about 3 to about
 50; and X⁻ is an anion which is compatible with fabric softener actives and
 adjunct ingredients.

25. (Previously presented) The composition of Claim 24 wherein said bilayer disrupter is a
 nonionic surfactant having a hydrophobic moiety that is selected from the group
 consisting of: fatty alcohols having between about 8 and about 18 carbon atoms and alkyl
 phenols having between about 8 and about 18 carbon atoms wherein said hydrophobic
 moiety is ethoxylated with between about 3 and about 15 ethylene oxide moieties.

26-45 (Canceled)